

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 06625 151700Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 OPIC-03 FEA-01 INT-05

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R 151640Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1547

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 6625

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BDIS ENRG EC

SUBJ: ADA CASE

REFS: (A) STATE 223615; (B) QUITO 6137; (C) QUITO 6352

1. EMBASSY DOES NOT FEEL IT ADVISABLE TO RAISE THE ADA CASE WITH THE GOE AT THIS TIME SINCE NORTHWEST NOW APPEARS WILLING TO APPROACH ADA TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO SETTLE ADA'S CLAIM AGAINST THE GOE. NORTHWEST HAS IN FACT DISCUSSED THIS IDEA WITH MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES VARGAS WHO AGREED TO THE APPROACH (REFTEL C). SINCE THERE IS NOW SOME PROGRESS TOWARD WHAT IS PROBABLY THE ONLY VIABLE SOLUTION TO ADA'S CLAIM, I.E., AND INITIAL NORTHWEST-ADA SETTLEMENT LATER SANCTIONED BY THE GOE, WE BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO DEVELOP FOR THE TIME BEING WITHOUT ANOTHER USG APPROACH TO THE GOE.

2. WE FRANKLY DOUBT WHETHER THE GOE IS CAPABLE OF HANDLING MORE THAN ONE IMPORTANT ISSUE AT A TIME. HOWEVER, EVEN IF IT WERE CAPABLE, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE CLIMATE IN THE VARIOUS GOE MINISTRIES WOULD BE PROPITIOUS FOR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF THE ADA CASE AT THIS TIME.

3. WE APPRECIATE DIFFICULTY IN CONVEYING EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT TO ADA VICE PRESIDENT LASSITER WITHOUT DIVULGING INFORMATION IN PARA 1. WE SUGGEST THAT ADA BE TOLD THAT
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PAGE 02 QUITO 06625 151700Z

THE EMBASSY NOW CONSIDERS IT COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO RAISE

THE ADA CASE, BUT WILL MAKE FURTHER APPROACHES TO THE GOE
AT THE OPPORTUNE TIME. IN OUR VIEW, THE GOE IS CONVINCED OF
THE CONTINUING USG INTEREST IN THE ADA CASE AND IS NOT
"JUST STALLING."
BLOOMFIELD

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Message Attributes

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